

REMARKS

The Examiner's Action mailed on May 18, 2007, has been received and its contents carefully considered.

In this Amendment, Applicants have editorially amended the specification, amended independent claim 1 to include the subject matter of dependent claims 2-7, and have canceled claims 2-9. Further, the Abstract of the Disclosure, and Figure 2 have been editorially amended. Claim 1 is the independent claim and is the only claim pending in the application. For at least the following reasons, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance.

The Examiner has objected to the Abstract for informalities. In response, attached hereto is a corrected Abstract, which is believed to comply with all official provisions. It is requested that this objection be withdrawn.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-6 and 8 as being anticipated by *Kang*. Because independent claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of dependent claim 7, which claim was not rejected in view of this reference, this rejection has been rendered moot.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 1-9 as being anticipated by *Patil et al.* Because claims 2-7 have been incorporated within independent claim 1, and because claims 2-9 have been canceled, Applicants will treat these rejections as pertaining only to independent claim 1. It is submitted that this claim is *prima facie* patentably distinguishable over the cited reference for at least the following reasons.

Applicants' independent claim 1, as noted above, includes the subject matter of original dependent claims 5, 6 and 7. Original claim 5 recited that a diameter of the intermediate shaft section is thinner than that of the screw shaft and that a diameter of the rotary shaft is thinner than that of the intermediate shaft section. As disclosed in Applicants' specification, for example, on pages 16-18, when the electromagnetic shock absorber is assembled, the screw shaft is spirally engaged with the ball nut, and the rotary shaft is inserted into the motor. This configuration facilitates the assembly of the device. In contrast, the cited reference does not disclose this configuration. Instead, it appears that the arrangement of the prior art screw shaft 112 is opposite of Applicants' claimed arrangement. That is, the threaded portion of the screw shaft 112 appears to be thinner than the intermediate section, which also appears to be thinner than the uppermost rotary shaft of the motor. For at least this reason, it is submitted that Applicants' independent claim 1 is *prima facie* patentably distinguishable over this reference.

Further, Applicants' claim 1 includes the subject matter of original claim 7, and recites that a second cushion member is installed at a lower surface of a bearing, and comes in contact with an upper surface of the ball nut at a maximum ascent stroke position of the internal cylinder. Thus, when the internal cylinder strokes up to its maximum ascent position, the second cushion member will come into contact with the ball nut to absorb shock of the ball nut resulting from a sudden collision. Further, the second cushion member can be utilized as a stopper for restraining a further ascent stroke of the internal cylinder. In contrast,

the cited reference does not disclose or suggest such a second cushion member. Although this reference does disclose a bearing assembly 114 disposed over a housing, from the cross-sectional lines used to illustrate of this housing, it is apparent that this housing is made of a metal material, and thus would not serve as a second cushion member, as recited by Applicants' independent claim 1. Thus, for at least this additional reason, it is submitted that Applicants' independent claim 1 is *prima facie* patentably distinguishable over the cited reference. As such, it is submitted that Applicants' independent claim 1 is *prima facie* patentably distinguishable over the cited reference. It is requested that this claim be allowed and these rejections be withdrawn.


It is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance. Such action, and the passing of this case to issue are requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a conference would help to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

Should any fee be required, the Director is hereby authorized to charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002.

Respectfully submitted,

Aug. 17, 2007
Date


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AMENDMENT

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